Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 DHA-02 ORM-02 ACDA-07 IO-13 /087 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:FJDEVINE APPROVED BY ARA:FJDEVINE ARA/AND - MR. BARNEBEY ARA/AND/CH - MR. DRISCOLL

- -

-----081419Z 080372 /40

R 070523Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ LIMA
AMEMBASSY QUITO

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CI

SUBJECT: SECOND DEMARCHE DESIGNED TO EASE TENSIONS IN THE ANDES

REF: STATE 098424

1. IN SECOND DIPLOMATIC DEMARCHE DESIGNED TO EASE WAR FEARS AND TENSIONS IN THE ANDES, ACTING DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DEVINE ACCOMPANIED BY ACTING ARA/AND CONFIDENTIAL

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OFFICE DIRECTOR BARNEBEY AND CHILE DESK OFFICER DRISCOLL MET ON MAY 5 WITH AMBASSADOR JORGE CAUAS OF CHILE.

- 2. POINTS MADE BY DEVINE CAN BE BRIEFLY SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS:
- A. ANDEAN WAR FEARS AND TENSIONS OF DECEMBER-

JANUARY HAD BEEN A SOURCE OF SERIOUS CONCERN TO US.

- B. OUR ANALYSIS THEN AND NOW INDICATED THAT MIS-CONCEPTIONS AND MISINTERPRETATIONS CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THOSE TENSIONS.
- C. SINCE THEN, WE SEE TENSIONS GREATLY RELIEVED AND PERIOD OF COMPARATIVE TRANQUILITY EXISTING AT PRESENT.
- D. TO EXTENT THIS IS TRUE, WE WOULD HOPE THAT PRESENT PERIOD COULD BE UTILIZED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO FORESTALL AND AVOID FUTURE RECURRENCE OF TENSIONS.
- E. WE RECOGNIZE, OF COURSE, THAT PERUVIAN BUILD-UP OF ARMAMENTS FROM SOVIET AND OTHER SOURCES OCCASIONS SERIOUS CONCERN TO ANDEAN NEIGHBORS.
- F. WE REGRET THAT HUMAN-RIGHTS RECORD OF CHILE HAS BEEN SUCH AS TO BRING INTERRUPTION OF TRADITIONAL ARMS SUPPLY, THUS CONTRIBUTING TO SIGNIFICANT ARMS IMBALANCE ON WEST COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA.
- G. USG IS DEEPLY COMMITTED TO CAUSE OF PEACE AND PRESERVATION OF PEACE THROUGHOUT THE AMERICAS, WHICH OF COURSE INCLUDES IMPORTANT CONFIDENTIAL

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REGION OF THE ANDES.

- H. WE HOPE AND TRUST THAT ANDEAN NATIONS WILL DO ALL THEY CAN TO PRESERVE PEACE IN THE AREA. THIS INVOLVES, INTER ALIA, AVOIDING ACTIONS OF ALARMIST OR PROVOCATIVE CHARACTER, OR WHICH COULD GIVE RISE TO DANGEROUS MISPERCEPTIONS AND MISINTERPRETATIONS.
- I. IN THIS OVER-ALL SITUATION, USG WISHES TO MAKE KNOWN ITS COMMITMENT TO CAUSE OF PEACE AND INSOFAR AS POSSIBLE TO BE SEEN AS A POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE FACTOR.
- J. ANDEAN TENSIONS REFLECT LONG-STANDING FACTORS
 OF HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY WHICH CANNOT BE
 CHANGED OVERNIGHT, BUT AS COUNTRIES OF THE
 REGION SORT OUT THEIR POSITIONS IN TODAY'S
 WORLD, USG HOPES THAT ITS OWN DEEP COMMIT-

MENT TO PEACE THROUGHOUT THE AMERICAS WILL BE BORNE IN MIND.

3. AMBASSADOR CAUAS LISTENED INTENTLY AND TOOK NOTES THROUGHOUT THIS PRESENTATION. UPON CONCLUSION THEREOF HE COMMENTED AS FOLLOWS:

A. HE GREATLY APPRECIATED OUR COMMENTS AND WOULD REPORT THEM TO HIS GOVERNMENT.

B. EXCHANGES OF HIGH-LEVEL VISITS BETWEEN
CHILEAN AND PERUVIAN OFFICIALS HAD BEEN
DESIGNED TO CONTRIBUTE TO EASING OF CITED
TENSIONS. HE HOPED THESE HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL. (WE AGREED THAT THEY HAD INDEED BEEN
HELPFUL AND THAT NOW PLANNED TRIPARTITE UNITAS
NAVAL EXERCISE INVOLVING US-CHILE-PERU MANEUVERS
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SEEMED TO US ANOTHER HIGHLY SALUTARY MEASURE ALONG THESE SAME LINES.)

C. AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED THAT INTRODUCTION OF SOVIET ARMS ON LARGE SCALE INTO AREA IS A DESTABILIZING FACTOR.

D. ANOTHER DISQUIETING ELEMENT IS LACK OF PROGRESS TOWARD BOLIVIAN OUTLET TO PACIFIC (HERE WE DISCUSSED WITH HIM PRESENT STATE OF PLAY BUT DECLINED TO BE DRAWN INTO DISCUSSION OF ANY ROLE FOR US IN INTERPRETING PROVISIONS OF 1929 TREATY).

E. AMBASSADOR CAUAS ASKED IF WE WERE HAVING SIMILAR DISCUSSIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER NATIONS IN THE AREA (WE INDICATED SOME WERE IN PROCESS).

F. REITERATING HIS APPRECIATION FOR CONTENT OF PRESENT CONVERSATION, CAUAS ASSURED US OF CHILE'S CORRESPONDING INTEREST IN PRESERVATION OF PEACE IN THE ANDES AND SAID THAT AS ANY THREATS TO THAT PEACE MIGHT ARISE -- OR BE PERCEIVED TO ARISE -- IN THE FUTURE, HE WOULD BE GLAD TO DISCUSS THEM WITH US SOONER RATHER THAN LATER. WE ALL AGREED THIS MIGHT BE HELPFUL.

4. FOR GOOD MEASURE WE REPEATED PRESENTATION IN ABBREVIATED FORM ON MAY 6 TO GENERAL ENRIQUE MOREL

WHO WE UNDERSTAND STILL TO BE VERY CLOSE TO PINOCHET. CHRISTOPHER	
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